



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

P.O. Box 61470

Boulder City, NV 89006-1470

DEC 17 2020



IN REPLY REFER TO:

LCB-4221

2.2.4.23

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Ms. Amy Lueders
Regional Director
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 1306
Albuquerque, NM 87103-1306

Subject: Approval of Calendar Year (CY) 2021 Colorado River Water Diversion – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service)

Dear Ms. Lueders:

The Bureau of Reclamation has received the Service's CY 2021 Colorado River water diversion estimate. In accordance with Title 43, Code of Federal Regulations Part 417 (Part 417), this letter provides the Service with notice of my determination regarding the Service's proposed diversion and beneficial use of Colorado River water for CY 2021.

As provided in Article II(D)(7) of the Consolidated Decree of the Supreme Court of the United States in *Arizona v. California*, 547 U.S. 150 (2006) (Consolidated Decree), the Havasu National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is entitled to divert up to 41,839 acre-feet (AF) per year, or consumptively use up to 37,399 AF per year, whichever is less, of Arizona second priority Colorado River water to fulfill the purposes of the refuge.

As provided in Article II(D)(8) of the Consolidated Decree, the Imperial NWR is entitled to divert up to 28,000 AF per year, or consumptively use up to 23,000 AF per year, whichever is less, of Arizona second priority Colorado River water to fulfill the purposes of the refuge.

As provided in the Secretarial Reservation, published in the *Federal Register* at 47 Fed. Reg. 55430 (December 9, 1982), the Cibola NWR is entitled to divert up to 34,500 AF per year, or consumptively use up to 16,793 AF per year, whichever is less, of Arizona second priority Colorado River water with a priority date of August 21, 1964, to fulfill the purposes of the refuge.

Based upon a review of the CY 2021 diversion estimates provided by the Service, and the information gathered during Reclamation's Part 417 consultation, I approve a total diversion of up to 70,968 AF of Colorado River water during CY 2021 for use on the Service's refuges within

INTERIOR REGION 8 • LOWER COLORADO BASIN

ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA*, NEVADA*

* PARTIAL

the state of Arizona. This approved diversion results in an estimated total consumptive use of 21,627 AF for CY 2021 for the refuges.

Diversions to each refuge are limited to the "Approved Diversion" amounts listed in the table below. Based on prior years' return flow calculations, diversions of up to these amounts of water will result in consumptive uses within the consumptive use limitations noted above.

	Diversion Entitlement (AF)	Requested Diversion (AF)	Approved Diversion (AF)	Estimated Consumptive Use (AF)
Havasu NWR	41,839	41,835	41,835	3,564
Cibola NWR	34,500	23,005	23,005	14,264
Imperial NWR	28,000	6,128	6,128	3,799
Total	104,339	70,968	70,968	21,627

Reclamation will monitor and project diversions and consumptive use of Colorado River water during CY 2021 in an effort to assist each entitlement holder in ensuring its annual approval amount is not exceeded. Beginning in January 2021, these projections will be available to water users each day on Reclamation's website: www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/hourly/forecast.pdf. It is expected that entitlement holders within the state of Arizona will use this information to adjust diversions to remain within approved annual quantities or, as appropriate, seek modification of the approval.

Thank you for submitting the Service's diversion estimate for CY 2021. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Jeremy Dodds, Water Accounting and Verification Group Manager, at (702) 293-8164 or jdodds@usbr.gov.

Sincerely,



Stacy L. Wade
Acting Regional Director
Interior Region 8: Lower Colorado Basin
Bureau of Reclamation

cc: Mr. Christopher S. Harris
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